

questions which affect the relationships between the economically advanced nations and the less-developed countries; it also is concerned with the whole field of human rights, and with the almost unlimited range of social questions. The need for a balanced representation of Member States on the Councils therefore cannot be over-emphasized. The claim of the new members in this respect is valid and just. But, Mr. Chairman, the older members have an equally valid and just claim that this be not done improperly at their expense. With the increase in membership of the United Nations, from 51 at the beginning in 1945 to 111 today, and the number grows, it is obvious that mere re-distribution of existing seats on the Councils would leave some groupings without representation from time to time, and even permanently. It would make it particularly difficult for most countries to be represented even once in a generation, many of which, because of their contribution to the purposes of the United Nations, have a definite claim to have a voice more frequently in its Councils. It would be difficult, if not impossible, in such a case, to achieve real representativeness on the Security Council. The equitable solution is therefore not re-distribution of the existing seats, but expansion of the Councils.

As we all know, present arrangements for the Security Council under the Charter provide for five permanent members and six elected members who hold their seats for two years. In accordance with the Gentleman's Agreement of 1946, the six elected members are to include one representative from the Commonwealth, one from the Communist states of Eastern Europe, two from Latin America, one from Western Europe, and one from the Middle East. This arrangement was made when the membership of the United Nations stood at 51. Today the United Nations includes 111 members and additional members are expected to join shortly. Consequently, it is more than understandable that we should be considering as a matter of urgency in this Committee today ways and means of dealing with the changed situation.

In ordinary circumstances, it would be expected that the question of adequate representation on the Councils would be dealt with as part and parcel of a general review of the Charter. This is an undertaking of the utmost importance. Canada would have preferred that expansion of the Councils should take place in that context. In a general review, all implications of one change would, and could, receive thorough consideration and the consequences drawn in other Sections and Articles before the change was effected. Obviously, the membership of the Councils is but one facet of the Charter review made desirable by the profound changes which have taken place in the world, and the additional